

1. **(Currently Amended)** A process for preparing a catalyst composite useful for alkylaromatic conversion, the said process comprising:
  - a) contacting an intermediate pore metallosilicate with an organosilicon compound in a solvent for a specific duration and then recovering the solvent;
  - b) combining the organosilicon compound treated metallosilicate with water and then drying the catalyst;
  - c) repeating the steps a) and b) above; and
  - d) calcining the catalyst in an oxygen containing atmosphere sufficient to remove the organic material and deposit siliceous matter on the metallosilicate;

wherein in said process calcining step d) is not repeated after each of step a) + b).
2. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said organosilicon compound is water insoluble.
3. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 2 wherein the said organosilicon compound is tetraalkoxy silane.
4. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein the said tetraalkoxy silane is tetraethoxy silane.
5. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said solvent is selected from lower aliphatic alcohols, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> saturated linear or cyclic hydrocarbons, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> aromatics or mixture thereof.
6. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 5 wherein the said solvent is a mixture of toluene and methanol.
7. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the concentration of the organosilicon compound in said solvent is in the range of 1 to 25 percent by weight.
8. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said metallosilicate is treated with the organosilicon compound containing solution for 0.5 to 24 hours.
9. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said solvent is recovered after metallosilicate is treated with the organosilicon compound containing solution.
10. **(Previously Presented)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein amount of said water is in the range of from 1 to 200 percent of the mass of the metallosilicate.
11. **(Currently Amended)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said water combined metallosilicate composite is dried at a temperature of from 10 to 150°C. [[,]]

12. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said water combined metallosilicate composite is dried at a temperature of 50 to 150°C.
13. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 11 wherein the said water combined metallosilicate composite is dried at a temperature of from 80 to 130°C.
14. **(Previously Presented)** A process as claimed in claim 11 wherein the said wet metallosilicate composite is dried for from 1 to 20 hours.
15. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the step a) and step b) are repeated more than once.
16. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the solvent recovered is reused.
17. **(Original)** A process as claimed claim 1 wherein the said calcination is carried out at a temperature in the range of from 160 to 800°C.
18. **(Original)** A process as claimed claim 17 wherein the said calcination is carried out at a temperature in the range of from 300 to 600°C.
19. **(Original)** A process as claimed claim 17 wherein the said calcination is carried out at a temperature in the range of from 400 to 550°C.
20. **(Cancelled)**
21. **(Currently Amended)** A process for preparing a catalyst composite useful for alkylaromatic conversion, the said process comprising:
  - a) contacting an intermediate pore metallosilicate with a water insoluble organosilicon compound in a solvent and then recovering the solvent;
  - b) combining the organosilicon compound treated metallosilicate with water, the amount of water employed being in the range of from 1 to 200 percent of the mass of said metallosilicate; [[,]]
  - c) drying the product from step b) at a temperature in the range of 10 to 150°C;
  - d) repeating the steps a), ~~and b)~~ and c) above; and
  - e) calcining the product in an oxygen containing atmosphere at a temperature in the range of 160 to 800°C sufficient to remove the organic material and deposit siliceous matter on the metallosilicate;wherein in said process calcining step e) is not repeated after each of step a) + b) + c).
22. **(Currently Amended)** A process for preparing a catalyst composite said process comprising:
  - a) contacting an intermediate pore metallosilicate with an organosilicon compound

in a solvent for a specific duration and then recovering the solvent;

- b) drying the catalyst;
  - c) repeating the steps a) and b) above;
  - d) calcining the catalyst in an oxygen containing atmosphere sufficient to remove the organic material and deposit siliceous matter on the metallosilicate;
- wherein in said process calcining step d) is not repeated after each of step a) + b).

23. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 22, wherein said organosilicon compound used is water soluble.

24. **(Currently Amended)** A process ~~as claimed in claim 22~~ for preparing a catalyst composite said process comprising:

- a) contacting an intermediate pore metallosilicate with an organosilicon compound in a solvent for a specific duration and then recovering the solvent;
  - b) drying the catalyst;
  - c) repeating the steps a) and b) above;
  - d) calcining the catalyst in an oxygen containing atmosphere sufficient to remove the organic material and deposit siliceous matter on the metallosilicate;
- wherein the said organosilicon compound is aminoalkyl trialkylsilane.

25. **(Currently Amended)** A process ~~as claimed in claim 24~~ for preparing a catalyst composite said process comprising:

- a) contacting an intermediate pore metallosilicate with an organosilicon compound in a solvent for a specific duration and then recovering the solvent;
  - b) drying the catalyst;
  - c) repeating the steps a) and b) above;
  - d) calcining the catalyst in an oxygen containing atmosphere sufficient to remove the organic material and deposit siliceous matter on the metallosilicate;
- wherein the said ~~aminoalkyl trialkylsilane~~ organosilicon compound is 3-aminopropyl triethoxysilane.

26. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the said solvent is selected from lower aliphatic alcohols, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> saturated linear or cyclic hydrocarbons, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> aromatics or mixture thereof and water.

27. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the said solvent is water.

28. **(Previously Presented)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the concentration of the organosilicon compound in said solvent is in the range of 1 to 99% by weight.
29. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the said metallosilicate is treated with the organosilicon compound containing solution for 0.5 to 24 hours.
30. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the said solvent is recovered after metallosilicate is treated with the organosilicon compound containing solution.
31. **(Original)** A process as claimed claim 22 wherein the said organosilicon compound treated metallosilicate composite is dried at a temperature form 10 to 150°C.
32. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein said water treated metallosilicate composite is dried for at least 1 hour.
33. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the step a) and step b) are repeated at least once.
34. **(Original)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the solvent recovered from the silanation step is reused for further silanation.
35. **(Currently Amended)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the said calcination in said oxygen containing atmosphere is carried out at a temperature in the range 160 to 800°C.
36. **(Previously Presented)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the said metallosilicate comprises a member of the pentasil family.
37. **(Currently Amended)** A process ~~as claimed in claim 36~~ for preparing a catalyst composite useful for alkylaromatic conversion, the said process comprising:
- a) contacting an intermediate pore metallosilicate with an organosilicon compound in a solvent for a specific duration and then recovering the solvent;
  - b) combining the organosilicon compound treated metallosilicate with water and then drying the catalyst;
  - c) repeating the steps a) and b) above;
  - d) calcining the catalyst in an oxygen containing atmosphere sufficient to remove the organic material and deposit siliceous matter on the metallosilicate;
- wherein the metallosilicate comprises a member of the pentasil family selected from the group consisting of: Ga-ZSM-5, Fe-ZSM-5, B-ZSM-5, Ga-Al-ZSM-5, Fe-Al-ZSM-5, B-Al-ZSM-5.
38. **(Currently Amended)** A process as claimed in claim ~~36~~37 wherein said metallosilicate

is Ga-Al-ZSM-5 having silicon to aluminium ratio in the range of 150 to 600 and silicon to gallium ratio is in the range of 500 to 2000.

39. **(Currently Amended)** A process ~~as claimed in claim 37~~ for preparing a catalyst composite useful for alkylaromatic conversion, the said process comprising:

- a) contacting an intermediate pore metallosilicate with an organosilicon compound in a solvent for a specific duration and then recovering the solvent;
- b) combining the organosilicon compound treated metallosilicate with water and then drying the catalyst
- c) repeating the steps a) and b) above; and
- d) calcining the catalyst in an oxygen containing atmosphere sufficient to remove the organic material and deposit siliceous matter on the metallosilicate;

wherein said metallosilicate is Ga-Al-ZSM-5 having silicon to aluminium ratio in the range of 150 to 600 and silicon to gallium ratio is in the range of 500 to 2000.

40.-49. **(Canceled)**

50. **(Currently Amended)** A process for preparing a composite comprising the said process comprising

- a) contacting an intermediate pore metallosilicate with a water soluble organosilicon compound in a solvent and then recovering the solvent;
- b) drying the product from step a) at a temperature in the range of 10 to 150°C;
- c) repeating the steps a) and b) above; and
- d) calcining the product in an oxygen containing atmosphere at a temperature in the range of 160 to 800°C sufficient to remove the organic material and deposit siliceous matter on the metallosilicate;

wherein in said process calcining step d) is not repeated multiple times after each of steps a) + b).

51. **(Previously Presented)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein amount of said water is in the range of from 2 to 100% of the mass of the metallosilicate.

52. **(Previously Presented)** A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein amount of said water is in the range of from 5 to 90% of the mass of the metallosilicate.

53. **(Previously Presented)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the concentration of the organosilicon compound in said solvent is in the range of 2 to 50% by weight.

54. **(Previously Presented)** A process as claimed in claim 22 wherein the concentration of the organosilicon compound in said solvent is in the range of 5 to 25% by weight.